

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed July 13, 2005. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and pending claims are respectfully requested.

I. Specification Objections

The specification has been objected to for containing various informalities.

In response to the objections, Applicant has amended the specification to change the title and provide a missing application number. In view of those amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the specification is not objectionable, and therefore respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn. No new matter has been added.

II. Drawings Objection

The drawings have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) for showing a reference numeral that is not present in the specification.

In response to this objection, Applicant has amended the specification to provide a reference to block "900" shown in Figure 9. In view of that amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that the drawings are acceptable and respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn. No new matter has been added.

III. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

A. Rejection of Claims 1-10

Claims 1-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Flannery (U.S. Pat. No. 6,594,405) in view of LeClair, et al. ("LeClair," U.S. Pat. No. 6,636,891). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As is indicated above, claims 1, 5, and 8, from which claims 2, 4-7, and 9-10 depend, have been amended through this Response. In view of those amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is moot as having been drawn against Applicant's claim in a previous form. Regardless, Applicant briefly discusses the applicability of the references in the following for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicant's claims have been amended to specify that form processing (i.e., form completion and printing) is practiced by a printing device. For example, claim 1 provides as follows (emphasis added):

1. A method *practiced by a printing device* for generating a form, the method comprising:
 - receiving with the printing device* data to be included in a form to be printed;
 - merging the received data with static form data *on the printing device*; and
 - printing the received data and the static form data* as a hard copy form.

Applicant respectfully submits that neither of the applied references teach any of "receiving with the printing device data to be included in a form", "merging the received data with static form data on the printing device", or "printing the received data and the static form data". Claims 1 and 2 are allowable for at least this reason. As claims 5 and 8 contain similar limitations, claims 4-7 and 9-10 are also believed to be allowable.

B. Rejection of Claims 11-15, 19, 20, and 24-26

Claims 11-15, 19, 20, and 24-26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Al-Hussein (U.S. Pat. No. 5,809,167) in view of Flannery. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As is indicated above, claims 11, 19, and 24, from which claims 12-15, 20, and 25-26 depend, have been amended through this Response. In view of those amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is moot as having been drawn against Applicant's claim in a previous form. Regardless, Applicant briefly discusses the applicability of the references in the following for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicant's claims have been amended to specify that form processing (i.e., form completion and printing) is practiced by a printing device. For example, claim 11 provides as follows (emphasis added):

11. A method *practiced by a printing device* for printing a form, the method comprising:
accessing form imaging data from at least one store via a network *with the printing device*;
retrieving the form imaging data from the at least one store *with the printing device*;
merging the retrieved form imaging data with static form data *on the printing device*; and
printing the form imaging data along with the static form data as a hard copy form.

Applicant respectfully submits that neither of the applied references teach any of "accessing form imaging data from at least one store via a network with the printing device", "retrieving the form imaging data from the at least one store with the printing

device”, “merging the retrieved form imaging data with static form data on the printing device”, or “printing the form imaging data along with the static form data”. Claims 11-15 are allowable for at least this reason. As claims 19 and 24 contain similar limitations, claims 20 and 25-26 are also believed to be allowable.

C. Rejection of Claims 16-18, 21-23, and 27

Claims 16-18, 21-23, and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Al-Hussein and Flannery as applied to claim 15, 20, and 24, and further in view of LeClair. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As is identified above, Al-Hussein and Flannery do not teach all of Applicant’s claim limitations. In that LeClair does not remedy this deficiency of the Al-Hussein and Flannery references, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 16-18, 21-23, and 27 are allowable over the Al-Hussein/Flannery/LeClair combination for at least the same reasons that claims 11, 19, and 24 are allowable over Al-Hussein/Flannery.

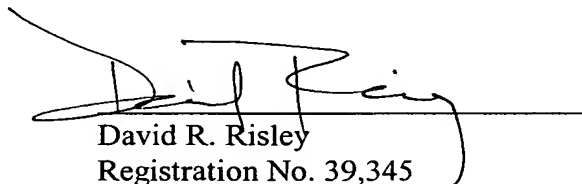
IV. Canceled Claims

Claim 3 has been canceled from the application without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to present this canceled claim, or variants thereof, in continuing applications to be filed subsequently.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on

9-22-05

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